Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 139579
ORIGIN IO-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 EB-03 L-01 INR-05 PM-03
DODE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 TRSE-00
/042 R

DRAFTED BY IO:JSWOLF
APPROVED BY IO:CWMAYNES
IO/AGR - PJBYRNES
AID/FFP - PSHEEHAN
EA/VLC - FZBROWN
IO - RBARRY
----------043830 020304Z /20
O P 020054Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139579

LIMDIS FODAG

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: AORG, WFP

SUBJECT: WFP FOOD AID TO VIETNAM
REF: A) VIENTIANE 597 B) VIENTIANE 607

1. REPORTS REFTEL CONCERNING WFP PROJECTS IN VIETNAM ARE MOST UNSETTLING. ALTHOUGH U.S. IS NOT SUPPLYING AND CANNOT SUPPLY ASSISTANCE TO WFP FOR VIETNAM WE CONSIDER THE MATTER SERIOUS ENOUGH FOR FODAG TO RAISE PRIVATELY WITH WFP EXDIR VOGEL, HOPEFULLY PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR MEXICO CITY. CONFIDENTIAL

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YOU SHOULD NOT REVEAL SOURCE OF OUR INFORMATION NOR EXTENT OF BRIEFINGS IN VIENTIANE.

2. IF REPORTS ARE CORRECT, THEN WFP PROJECTS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT IN APPARENT SERIOUS DISREGARD OF NUMEROUS WFP REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES. WERE WORD OF THIS TO BECOME PUBLIC, OR WERE THESE PRECEDENTS EXTENDED TO WFP PROJECTS ELSEWHERE, IT COULD HAVE A DEVASTATING EFFECT ON U.S. SUPPORT FOR WFP BY VITIATING ALL ARGUMENTS THAT WFP PROJECTS ARE TARGETED ON SPECIFIC GROUPS OF POOR AND

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UNDERNOURISHED PERSONS. WE CANNOT ACCEPT THE ARGUMENT
THAT HOST GOVERNMENT IS SUPPLYING EQUAL QUANTITY (OR
GREATER QUANTITY) OF MORE ACCEPTABLE COMMODITIES TO PROJECT
BENEFICIARIES. WHILE A LIMITED FOOD BASKET IS OF COURSE
A CONSTRAINT TO WFP OPERATIONS VOGEL HIMSELF AT LAST

CFA MADE CLEAR THAT WFP POLICY IS TO NEGOTIATE (BEFORE
PROJECT) ALL OF THE MODALITIES OF PROJECT, INCLUDING
FOOD BASKET FOR PROJECT, AND THEN TO PROCEED. WE ASSUME
SRV AGREED TO A SPECIFIC FOOD BASKET WHEN IT SIGNED
LETTERS OF AGREEMENT FOR INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS.

3. WE ARE AWARE THAT AID TO VIETNAM HAS IMPORTANT
POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND HAVE TAKEN THE POSITION THAT
SRV IS AS ELIGIBLE FOR WFP ASSISTANCE AS ANY OTHER
COUNTRY ENCOMPASSED BY RULE 15 OF NEW GENERAL REGULATIONS.
HOWEVER, WE HAVE ALSO MAINTAINED THAT QUANTITY OF AID
GOING TO VIETNAM OUGHT NOT TO BE SKEWED OUT OF PROPORTION
TO OVERALL WFP AID AND THAT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS FOR
VIETNAM OUGHT TO BE SAME AS THOSE FOR ALL OTHER WFP
RECIPIENTS.

4. VIETNAM IS NOW RECEIVING $89 MILLION OF WFP ASSIS-
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TANCE. WE WILL FIND IT DIFFICULT TO SUPPORT ADDITIONAL
ASSISTANCE CONTEMPLATED ($35 MILLION) ESPECIALLY IF
SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES IN CURRENT PROJECTS NOT CORRECTED.
WE RELY ON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO TAKE PROMPT AND EFFEC-
TIVE ACTION TO BRING WFP OPERATIONS IN VIETNAM INTO
CONFORMITY WITH REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES WHICH ARE TO
GOVERN ALL WFP OPERATIONS.

5. (FYI ESPECIALLY WORRISOME IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT
THIS METHOD OF OPERATION COULD SPILL INTO LAOS. IT
WILL BE IMPORTANT THAT JUST APPROVED U.S. FOOD AID FOR
LAOS BE TARGETED TO SPECIFIC RECIPIENT GROUP AND THAT
WFP BE ALLOWED TO MONITOR AND REPORT ON DISTRIBUTION.
FOR THAT REASON WE ARE HEARTENED BY MFA OFFICIAL'S
STATEMENT PARA 2 OF REF B THAT MONITORING "WAS A
PERFECTLY NORMAL, PROPER REQUIREMENT." THIS POINT CANNOT
AFFORD TO BE COMPROMISED.
6. FOR OTTAWA: EMBASSY SHOULD BE AWARE OF THIS ISSUE
BECAUSE OF THE THREAT IT POSES TO WFP. AS CANADA IS THE
SECOND LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR TO WFP AND BECAUSE VOGEL IS A
CANADIAN NATIONAL, WE MAY WANT TO ALERT GOC TO THE
PROBLEM DEPENDING ON VOGEL'S RESPONSE TO THIS APPROACH.
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ORIGIN IO-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /007 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:IO/AGR/JOHNSWOLF
APPROVED BY/IO/SA:TBROWN
----------033304 121621Z /43
O 121605Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139579

LIMDIS: FOR BYRNES USDEL WFC

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 139579 ACTION ROME INFO OTTAWA
VIENTIANE BANGKOK PARIS JUN 2

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139579

LIMDIS FODAG

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: AORG, WFP

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REF: A) VIENTIANE 597 B) VIENTIANE 607

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 26 sep 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, FOODS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO:JSWOLF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780230-0501
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806115/baaaeyug.tel
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: d22b4f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: A) VIENTIANE 597 B) VIENTIANE 607
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2176360
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WFP FOOD AID TO VIETNAM
TAGS: AORG, EAID, IT, VM, WFP
To: ROME INFO OTTAWA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d22b4f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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